

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 02317 040638Z

20

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 MC-02 ACDA-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /056 W

----- 039482

R 040620Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7709

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 2317

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PFOR, TH, FR

SUBJECT: SALE OF FRENCH MIRAGES TO THAILAND

1. THE NATION ON 29 JANUARY 1976 REPORTED A FRENCH OFFER TO SELL AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF MIRAGE JETS TO THAILAND ON CONCESSIONARY LONG-TERM INSTALLMENT BASIS. THE OFFER REPORTEDLY CAME DURING A MEETING BETWEEN FRENCH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER BERNARD DESTREMAU'S TALKS WITH RTG FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI ON 27 JANUARY. CHATCHAI WAS SAID TO BE "VERY KEEN" ON THE PROPOSAL. A NATION EDITORIAL THE FOLLOWING DAY ENDORSED THE PROPOSAL AS A MEANS OF CUTTING THAILAND FREE OF "THE APRON STRINGS OF THE UNITED STATES" IN PROCUREMENT OF MILITARY WEAPONS.

2. THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS HAS DENIED THAT ANY SUCH OFFER WAS MADE. THE MILITARY ATTACHE TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY HAS ALSO INFORMED OUR DATT THAT THE NATION STORY WAS ERRONEOUS.

3. ACCORDING TO THE CHIEF OF JUSMAG AIR FORCE DIVISION, THE MIRAGE F-1 WAS DISCUSSED BY RTAF FIGHTER EVALUATION COMMITTEE SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, BUT REJECTED IN FAVOR OF THE US F-5E OR A-10.

WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 02317 040638Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, JET AIRCRAFT, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGKO02317
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760041-0872
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760285/aaaacwld.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SALE OF FRENCH MIRAGES TO THAILAND
TAGS: MILI, PFOR, TH, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006